

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4 and 8 are amended. Reconsideration of the application based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the August 16, 2006 personal interview by Examiner Kayrish and Supervisory Examiner Korzuch. The substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

In the Office Action, claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. 102(b), as being anticipated by Kamijima (U. S. Pub. No. 2003/0099054). Applicants submit that the publication date of Kamijima, May 29, 2003, is within one year of the filing date of the present application, March 15, 2004, and as such, Kamijima does not qualify as prior art under 35 U. S. C. 102(b). Kamijima does appear to qualify as prior art under 35 U. S. C. 102(e).

I. 35 U. S. C. 102(e)

The Office Action has rejected the independent claims 1-11 under 35 U. S. C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kamijima. As discussed during the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that Kamijima does not anticipate a head slider having at least a device to be energized, including first and second poles for supplying a current therebetween, an energizing electrode pad disposed on a first surface of the head slider on a side opposite from the support, the first pole of the device to be energized, being electrically connected to the electrode pad, and the second pole of the device to be energized, being conductible by way of a second surface of the head slider different from the first surface and without passing the first surface, as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 4 and 8.

Kamijima is generally directed to magnetic head slider. In Figs. 2 and 3, Kamijima shows a head slider that has electric leads, two of which are heating current electrode

terminals 32. The terminals 32 are connected to a heater. See paragraph 0065. As it is evident from Fig. 2, the wire that is connected to the terminals 32 has one contact near base plate 24. The length of the wire runs on the top surface of load beam 22, from the base plate 24 to the magnetic head slider 21, through the lead conductor member 25. Having such configuration, however, presents a problem in designing smaller magnetic head slider, because the head slider 21 generally cannot be made smaller without decreasing the size of the electrodes, which, in turn, weakens the bonds between the electrodes and the wires. See paragraph 0004 of the present specification. Kamijima does not teach anything related solving the preceding problem. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that Kamijima does not teach or suggest the second pole of the device to be energized, being conductible by way of the second surface of the head slider different from the first surface and without passing the first surface, as recited in independent claims 1, 4, and 8.

In view of the preceding and the interview with the Examiner Kayrish and Supervisory Examiner Korzuch, Applicants believe claims 1, 4 and 8, as well as claims that depend from them, are distinguished over Kamijima. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of 35 U. S. C. 102(e) rejection.

II. Conclusion

Applicants believe that the present Amendment has placed the application in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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